



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

October 12, 2007

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This responds to your letter, dated October 5, 2007, concerning the Department of Justice policy governing contacts with the White House. We are providing similar responses to Chairperson Sanchez and Representative Cohen, who joined in your letter to us.

As you may know, in response to questions from Senator Whitehouse at the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on July 18, 2007, then Attorney General Gonzales testified that he was "concerned" with the breadth of the current policy and that he wanted the Department to "take a look" at the policy. That review is underway and we expect to issue a revised policy after a new Attorney General is confirmed. We will be happy to provide a copy of the revised policy to you after it is finalized and communicated to Department personnel.

We hope that this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

Brian A. Benczkowski

Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Lamar Smith
Ranking Minority Member